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add one shilling to the taxes of the country—and therefore I am desirous of being very explicit with you upon the subject of expenses. My fortunes, Gentlemen, were handed down to me by my grandfather, who at the beginning of the last century, restored by honest, and I may almost say, unprecedented efforts of industry, a family which his older brother had reduced by extravagance.—A little reflection here, and on the future welfare of my children, determines me, as I think it would every feeling man, not to cramp my own independence, nor make any great sacrifices of a property acquired by hard labour, in the pursuit of an object of ambition.—What Mr. Wilkes said of the Freeholders of Middlesex, has general application,—“that those who were really disposed to support him, would ride upon broomsticks to the place of election; but that all the carriages in the world would not convey those who were adverse.”

My political sentiments have been often misrepresented; but you, Gentlemen, who know me best, know that I am only an enemy to peculation and abuses—I revere the British constitution, and look up to it as the security for the great stake I have in the country; and my efforts will always be directed to strengthen and support it, and repair every inroad and encroachment upon the rights and liberties of the people.

In whatever way our endeavours may end, be assured, that no defeat in the pursuit of a seat in Parliament, can obliterate from my mind the agreeable sensations which the flattering expression of your opinion excited, and I shall reflect upon it with pleasure as long as I live.

Believe me to remain, Gentlemen, your faithful friend and servant,

WILLIAM HALLETT.

To Messrs. White, &c. &c.

Faringdon, Berkshire.

JAMAICA.

The Representation and Petition of the House of Assembly of Jamaica, addressed to his Royal Highness the Prince Regent, begins by adverting to the state of the coffee trade. It states, that the exportation of coffee from the colony, which on the average of the four years, ending the 30th of September, 1791, was 1,603,066lbs. had increased in the three years, terminating the 30th September, 1808, to 28,500,000lbs. and upwards, which, at the rate of £6. per cwt. pro-

duced an annual revenue to the cultivators of £1,700,000. This prosperity was, however, of short duration, and in consequence of the French Continental system, and the shutting of the European markets, the proprietors of coffee plantations were reduced to the greatest distress and misery.—The produce of their plantations became of no value, either to sell, barter, or pledge, and by compelling it to be sent to Great Britain, incurring thereby a new debt for freight and mercantile charges, the ruin was still further increased, the accumulation of coffee being such, that there is no hope that the proceeds will ultimately relieve the proprietor. The representation then proceeds to advert to the means of extending the home market for coffee, and suggests the taking off the duty of excise, and imposing only a small custom; it also suggests the supplying with coffee the army, navy, prisoners of war, and all who receive rations from government, the continuance of the existing duties on coffee from the conquered and foreign colonies, and the imposing a high protecting duty, if not a prohibition, on the production of St. Domingo.

The distresses of the island are not, however, it is stated, confined to the coffee-planters, the growers of cotton, pimento, and the minor staples, are suffering severely from their depreciation.

The sugar planters, however, it is observed, call more especially for the protection and interference of his Royal Highness, as, if they are overwhelmed, all other classes of the inhabitants must share in their fate. On this part of the subject, it is stated, that from the year 1799 there has been a progressive diminution in the actual money price of sugar; while that of all articles employed in carrying on the plantations has regularly increased. The cost of raising the sugar, after applying the value of the rum, and excluding any allowance whatever for keeping up the capital, is stated at

£1. 1s. 6d. per cwt.

The freight and mercantile charges in	
Great Britain,.....	0 16 0
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The duty, subject to a contingent rise, but to no diminution,...	1 7 0
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When sugar therefore, it is observed, sells in Great Britain at 64s. 6d. per cwt. the planter is only paid the charges of raising and bringing it there, without a fraction to liquidate the interest of his debt, or defray the expenses of his family. If the average price of sugar be below 37s. 6d., exclusive of the duty, as was the case in 1808, and as has now become its actual situation again, the planter does not merely cultivate his estate for the benefit of the British government exclusively, but he also pays for being employed as the bailiff on his own plantation, a contribution to the extent of whatever sum the sugar shall sell for under 37s. 6d.

The consequence of this state of affairs is alleged to be, that estate after estate has passed into the hands of mortgagees and creditors absent from the island, until there are large districts, whole parishes, in which there is not a single proprietor of a sugar plantation resident!

The representation then proceeds to state, that sugar cannot be brought into the British market for less than 50s. per cwt.; and observes, that it would not be unreasonable to call for an assessment of duty, leaving this equitable return for capital and labour. If, it proceeds to observe, from a gross price of 80s. there be levied a duty of 50s. let that duty be reduced, at least, as the gross sales are diminished, and the Treasury be contented with 20s. when the market price is 60s. At this last rate, and with the moderated impost, only 2s. 6d. per cwt. would remain to the planter, whilst he would pay to the public the whole 20s. which ought to be raised on the consumer: deplorable, indeed, is the distress which calls for this as an alleviation! We hope, however, from the justice of your Royal Highness, that the produce of our fields may be admitted into the markets of our country on the same footing with the productions of the home provinces, and, with perfect confidence, though in all humility, we claim, as of right, a preference over the corn of aliens, and of enemies.

If it be not thought expedient to employ our staples exclusively in distillation, we hope that they will be admitted on terms of fair equality with grain of native growth, and resorted to as a substitute for foreign corn, whenever they can supply its place, without evident disadvantage.

It is then observed, that accumulating coffee in the warehouses of Great Britain,

can be beneficial to no one, but by a permission for a limited time, and under reasonable restrictions, to barter for bullion, provisions, lumber, or other commodities, which may be lawfully brought into the colony, and to export the coffee in vessels of any friendly or neutral power, to all ports of America and Europe, where it may be received, some alleviation would be afforded to the miseries of the grower. He might at least be able to procure the fish, salt, and clothing, absolutely necessary for his people.

Being permitted to refine their own sugar, would also, it is stated, afford obvious and great relief.

It is also suggested, that an adequate supply of red and white oak staves cannot, it is believed, be obtained from any other source than the United States of America, and that flour and dry provisions for the army and navy, and inhabitants of the towns, are only to be procured from the same quarter. Formerly rum was consumed in the United States to the extent of 30,000 puncheons annually; but during the last three years, the exports has been only 5,383 puncheons annually, the Americans preferring their own corn-spirit. "In payment," it is added, "for necessities with which we cannot dispense, we are allowed to offer nothing that will be received but bullion. A constant drain of our specie is therefore kept up, and the want of a circulating medium considerably aggravates our difficulties. At the out-ports, specie cannot be obtained; and, in the present state of the currency, the Americans will not take bills of exchange on Great Britain, at a discount of 20 per cent. After disposing of the cargo for money, they proceed to the Havannah, and lay it out for sugar and coffee, which they would have been glad to obtain here in the first instance."

And it is therefore urged, that to permit neutral and friendly vessels to take away coffee, rum, and sugar, to the value of the cargoes imported, by a fair tariff, or book of rates, or under any other reasonable restrictions, would be a considerable alleviation of the difficulties of the country; it would preserve a circulating medium, and enable the poorer planters to procure by barter those articles of the first necessity, which at present they cannot raise money to purchase.

The Petition concludes with an earnest prayer to his Royal Highness, to direct his ministers to bring the distresses of the colony under the review of Parliament.